



**National Society of
Professional Engineers®**

September 25, 2013

The Honorable Bill Shuster
United States House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nick Rahall
United States House of Representatives
2307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member Rahall,

The National Society of Professional Engineers wishes to express its support for **H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013**. This legislation will streamline the infrastructure project delivery process and strengthen our nation's water transportation networks.

NSPE is the national organization of licensed professional engineers from all disciplines that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image and well-being of its members. NSPE serves more than 35,000 members and the public through 53 state and territorial societies and over 400 chapters.

As you know, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013 (WRRDA) would be the first authorization for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in six years. WRRDA would overhaul and dramatically improve the process for federal water resources development. The legislation sets hard deadlines on the time and cost of studies, consolidates or eliminates duplicative studies and concurrent reviews that can hold up projects for years, and streamlines environmental reviews. WRRDA fully offsets new authorizations with deauthorizations and cancels \$12 billion of inactive projects that were approved prior to the 2007 Water Resources Development Act. This legislation maximizes the ability of nonfederal interests to contribute their own funds to move authorized studies and projects forward. Moreover, it substantially reduces project backlogs.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to ensuring that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can carry out its mission to develop, maintain, and support the nation's port and waterways infrastructure needs, as well as targeted flood protection and environmental restoration needs. NSPE stands ready to assist as this bill moves through the legislative process. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact NSPE Manager of Government Relations Arielle Eiser at 703-684-2844 or aeiser@nspe.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Robert A. Green', is positioned above the printed name.

Robert A. Green, P.E., F.NSPE
President, NSPE